



REMEMBRANCE

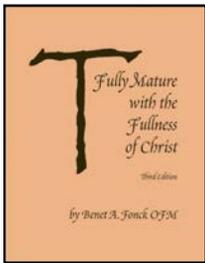


Father Benet Fonck, OFM

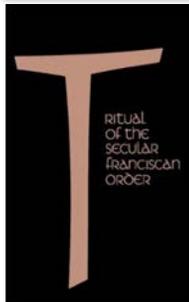
June 3, 1045 - December 23, 2016



Fr. Benet was a true champion of Secular Franciscans who gifted us in countless ways. Let us hold him, and those closest to him, in our thoughts and prayers. May the Lord surround him with His Light and fill his heart with peace. *Jan Parker, OFS*



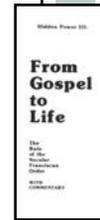
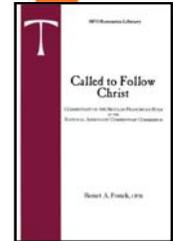
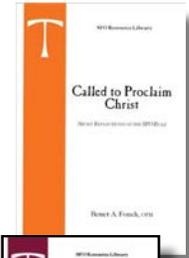
Fr. Benet Fonck, Age 71, passed away peacefully on Friday, December 23, 2016 at Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home in Joliet, IL where he served as Chaplain from 2005-2012. He was born June 3, 1945 in Akron, Ohio to the late Anna Rita (nee Karabinos) and Arthur Fonck and was raised in Joliet, IL and Elmhurst, IL.



Fr. Benet was ordained a Priest June 3, 1972 and served parishes in Texas, Illinois and Missouri. He also served as the General Spiritual

Assistant for the Secular Franciscan Order in Rome from 1980-1985 and as a Liaison to friars in Manitowoc, Wisconsin in the early to mid 1990's. Father retired to St. Clare's Village in Alton, IL earlier this year. *Obituary*

Fr. Benet's Secular Franciscan Resource library is another gift. I particularly liked Volume 6, *Called to Build a More Fraternal and Evangelical World*, which connects each article of the Rule with a passage from the Gospels, New Testament, Old Testament, Psalms, writings of St. Francis and St. Clare, Franciscan resources, Vatican II documents, papal statements, and prayers. We could spend a very long time studying the Rule using this resource, which is still available from Amazon.com. *Vickie Klick, OFS*



Thank you for supporting the Secular Franciscan Order through your guidance and wisdom.

Grace Viola, OFS - Prayer Warrior of God

1905-2016



Grace Viola, a true prayer warrior of God, was called back to her Heavenly Father on October 30, 2016. Grace was 110 years old and a Secular Franciscan member of St. Bernard's Fraternity in Sunrise, Florida.

She was born Gracia Maria Balsamo on December 28, 1905, in Brooklyn, New York. She married Mariano Viola in 1928, and together they had 3 girls.

In 1946, Grace was professed as a Secular Franciscan. This past April she celebrated her 70th year of profession.

In 1974 she moved to Sunrise, Florida, and became an active member of St. Bernard Church.

Grace was a care giver, servant and prayer warrior for God. Grace cared for her father (who passed away at 104 years old) and also her blind sister. Grace served her parish by being an active member of the Legion of Mary, the rosary makers, the prayer group, the women's guild, and a Eucharistic Minister. She loved bringing Christ to the nursing homes in the area, giving the patients Christ in the Eucharist along with a loving heart to spend time with those who had no visitors or loved ones in the area.

As a Secular Franciscan, Grace was always there sharing her wisdom and spirituality. At 102, she still baked pies for the meeting and would recite poems that she had memorized in the third grade. She always had a kind word for all.

In the last few years before her death, Grace was our prayer warrior with rosary in hand and her special prayers that she recited daily.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. and may your holy light shine upon them.